

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director of Training EYES ONLY

DATE: 3 November 1960

FROM : Chief, School of International Communism

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SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report No. 39
28 October - 3 November 1960

I. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

II. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. We have been giving considerable attention to the possible ways of approaching the "American Heritage" if SIC should be given this responsibility in the JOT program. I feel rather strongly that in addition to the Communist version of what the U. S. currently represents and the U. S. version of our heritage we should concentrate considerable effort upon evaluations and commentaries provided by serious allied and neutral observers of the U. S. - both sympathetic and critical. Proceeding from that point we could attempt to arrive at the common ground evidenced by both the U. S. and non-Communist foreign observers. I believe that [redacted] can be very useful in this connection. It is a field with which he is already quite familiar - and before the possibility emerged of SIC's becoming involved in such an effort he had commented that this element had seemed to be missing in SIC's last JOT program.

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2. In beginning to review our accomplishments and shortcomings of this past year I regret having to admit to a rather glaring failure -- the fact that we seem to be almost as far from producing a Communist handbook as we were at this juncture last year. I had hoped that this project would be completed long since, but I was apparently guilty of a rather gross overestimation of our capabilities and, more particularly, of the time which would be available to work on this document. [redacted] and [redacted] have been most patient - have not pressed the issue - but have merely "inquired" from time to time about the status of the project. I had hoped to put [redacted] on this for the next couple of months, but if the "American Heritage" comes our way it will have to take first priority. At this point I can't estimate with any degree of confidence when we might aim at completing the handbook. I raise the question here primarily to assure you that I haven't forgotten it or deliberately pushed it aside, but to point out that it has sort of been lost in the shuffle of this year's activities.

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3. As a result of the discussion of the role of staff meetings at last week's DTR meeting I have concluded that SIC - in order to be consistent with the other schools - should institute meetings on a more formal and regular basis. Since SIC is a small and rather well-knit group I had always thought that an informal procedure could be followed, but this has probably resulted in an occasional failure to pass the right word at the right time - which can be rectified by a brief weekly meeting.

4. Tutorial Training:

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5. Non-Agency Presentations:

FSI - 31 October
"Theoretical Background"

FSI - 31 October
"Political System"

FSI - 1 November
"Economic Potential"

SIS - 1 November
"Basis of Communist Thought"

SIS - 2 November
"Development and Status of CP
Organization"

SIS - 3 November
"Communist Movement Today"

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